



**KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON WOMEN
BIG SANDY REGIONAL MEETING REPORT**

**Hosted by: Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center
Big Sandy Community & Technical College
Tuesday, July 18, 2006
6:00 PM**

Regional Coordinators: Barbara Pugh, Jean Dorton
Guest Speakers: Andrew Dorton, Public Finance LLC
Kitty White, Pike County Chamber of Commerce
Jean Dorton, Big Sandy Community & Technical College
Total Participants: 20*

The Big Sandy Regional Meeting of the Kentucky Commission on Women was held on July 18, 2006 at the Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center. The group heard from three guest speakers, brainstormed on the five initiatives of the commission, and enjoyed refreshments prepared by the Food Service Class at the center.

Andrew Dorton of Public Finance, LLC addressed the group regarding Women and Finance. Mr. Dorton discussed the importance of maintaining good credit and the potentially devastating effects of poor credit on the lives of women. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

Kitty White, of the Pike County Chamber of Commerce spoke to the group about area leadership programs. Pike County has taken the lead in the development of leadership programs in Eastern Kentucky for adults and youth. Floyd and Johnson counties are following a similar model. Ms. White touched on other topics including Habitat for Humanity and the Pike County Chamber Work Ethic Award for high school students.

Jean Dorton, of Big Sandy Community and Technical College, presented a power point on girls Math & Science Career Camp. This project grew out of the 2005 regional meeting recommendations in the areas of education, leadership, and equity discussions. The camp focused on the girls being introduced to non-traditional vocations with a math and science emphasis with the aim of widening the arena of awareness for those in attendance. They explored the issues of civic engagement and community contributions. The 2006 Girls Math and Science Career Camp, sponsored by the Big Sandy Community and Technical Career Camp and Kentucky Highlands Entrepreneur Center, was chosen as the 2006 Kentucky Commission on Women's Big Sandy Regional Star Project.

The Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center is a division of the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. The mission of the center and agency is to enhance independence and employment for individuals with disabilities.

Discussion areas of brainstorming sessions are listed below.

- **EQUITY**
Habitat for Humanity
- **ECONOMIC SUFFICIENCY**
Pike Co Chamber "Work Ethic Award"
Childcare grant and program at Roy Collier Community Center (Martin Co.)

- **HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
Habitat for Humanity
Shriner's Hospital and Charity
Walk Across Kentucky
- **EDUCATION**
Pike County Youth Leadership Program
Math & Science Career Camp
- **LEADERSHIP**
Habitat for Humanity
Pike County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program
Pike County Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Program
Math & Science Career Camp

The meeting ended with suggestions for additions to the 2007 invitation list to include:

Christian Appalachian Project
Inez Deposit Bank
Jim Booth
Craig Preece
Amy Allen (Martin Co. Historical Society)
Center for Rural Development
Carol Lee Dials
Vicky Hayes
Glendyne Marcum
Big Sandy Community Action Program
Elite Insurance
Warfield Elementary & Middle Schools, Family Resource Centers

Potential Projects for further exploration were identified as:

Rogers Explorers
Female Candidate School
"Walk Across Kentucky"
Stars for Kids Now
Expansion of the Girls Math and Science Career Camp to include additional counties

*Note due to the small attendance the group elected to remain as one and address all areas of focus.